



STATE OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
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News Release

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Meeting in Skamania Tackles Pools, Hotels and Vaccines

Wed., May 12, 9 a.m.–3:45 p.m., Dolce Skamania Lodge, 1131 SW Skamania Lodge Way, Stevenson

The State Board of Health will hold its May meeting at Dolce Skamania Lodge in Stevenson on Wednesday, May 12, from 9 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. The agenda features three major rule-making items:

- A public hearing on proposed safety standards for pools and other water recreation facilities. The rules would change lifeguarding requirements to focus on whether children are present rather than the size of the pool, require shutoff switches or secondary drains so people are not stuck to pools bottoms because of the suction effect of a single drain, and strengthen fencing requirements. The Board may adopt the rules at the conclusion of the hearing.
- A briefing on possible changes to the health and safety standards for hotels, motels and other transient accommodations; and
- A proposal to create an advisory group on immunizations requirements for children entering school. It would establish criteria for determining which vaccines should be mandated, then assess currently mandated vaccines and new vaccines against those criteria.

The Board will also hear from the Skamania County Board of Health, discuss West Nile virus preparations, and recognize the contributions of Board member Vickie Ybarra. Ms. Ybarra has chosen not to seek reappointment after two terms.

Copies of the agenda and related materials are available by contacting the Board of Health at (360) 236-4110 or by visiting the Board's Web site at <http://www.sboh.wa.gov/>. The emergency and press contact number for the Board during the meeting is (360) 701-2398.

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The State Board of Health serves the citizens of Washington by working to understand and prevent disease across the entire population. Established in 1889 by the State Constitution, the Board provides leadership by suggesting public health policies and actions, by regulating certain activities, and by providing a public forum. The governor appoints ten members who fill three-year terms. Visit the board's Web site at www.sboh.wa.gov.